

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)
Monthly Newsletter for the Durham Community
July 2015

North Carolina Gun Law: Storage of Firearms to Protect Minors (N.C.G.S. 14-315.1)

It is against the law to reside in the same premises as a minor, own or possess a firearm, and store or leave the firearm in a condition that it can be discharged and in a manner that you knew or should have known that an unsupervised minor would be able to gain access to it, and a minor gains access to the firearm without lawful permission, and the minor illegally possesses the firearm on school grounds or exhibits the firearm in a public place in a careless, angry, or threatening manner or causes personal injury or death with the firearm which is not in self-defense or uses it in the commission of a crime. This crime is a Class 1 misdemeanor and may be punishable by one hundred twenty (120) days in prison.

Pocket-size cards detailing many North Carolina firearm statutes are available to the public by Project Safe Neighborhoods. Please call 560-4438 x29230 to request cards for your community or organization.

PSN Partner Spotlight: Gang Resistance Education and Training

Durham Police officers and Durham County Sheriff's deputies provide Gang Resistance Education and Training lessons to every fourth and sixth grade student in Durham Public Schools. With prevention as its primary objective, the program is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, bullying, and gang membership. The GREAT curricula features lessons such as communication skills, decision-making, goal setting, conflict resolution, refusal skills, and violence prevention.

ONE SIMPLE THING YOU CAN DO to Prevent Gun Crime in Durham: Be a Witness

Be a witness in the crimes you report that lead to arrest. Far too many cases go untried because witnesses do not want to testify against the suspect or miss work for court proceedings. This allows criminals to return to our streets. For the safety of Durham residents, please stay with the case and be a credible witness in court.

Pointers for Parents: Five Important Lessons to Teach Your Children

1. Never go anywhere with (or open the door to) someone you or your parents don't know and trust. If someone touches you in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable, say no, get away, and tell a trusted adult.
2. Don't use alcohol or other drugs, and stay away from people and places associated with them.
3. Stick with friends who are against violence and drugs, and stay away from known trouble spots.
4. Get involved to make school safer and better – conduct a poster contest against violence, hold anti-drug rallies, counsel peers, settle disputes peacefully. If there is no program, help start one!
5. Help younger children learn to avoid being crime victims. Set a good example, and volunteer to help with community efforts to stop crime.

PSN in Your Neighborhood

July 8: JJ Henderson Towers (Durham Housing Authority community)

July 9: Oldham Towers (Durham Housing Authority community)

July 14: Damar Court (Durham Housing Authority community)